

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid construct comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide that is at least 95% ~~80%~~ identical to SEQ ID NO:4, wherein the polynucleotide sequence, when introduced into a plant, enhances the plant's resistance to pathogens compared to resistance of a plant not transformed with the polynucleotide sequence, and
wherein a first amino acid sequence comprising the polypeptide binds to a second amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:2 in a yeast two-hybrid binding assay.
2. (Previously presented) The construct of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide sequence is from a rice plant.
- 3-12. (Canceled)
13. (Previously presented) The construct of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide sequence is SEQ ID NO:3.
- 14-21. (Canceled)
22. (Currently amended) The construct of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide sequence encodes ~~SEQ ID:4~~ SEQ ID NO:4.
- 23-29. (Canceled)
30. (Original) The construct of claim 1, further comprising a promoter operably linked to the polynucleotide sequence.

31. (Currently amended) A transgenic plant comprising a recombinant expression cassette comprising a plant promoter operably linked to a polynucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide that is at least 95% ~~80%~~ identical to SEQ ID NO:4, wherein the polynucleotide sequence, when introduced into a plant, enhances the plant's resistance to pathogens compared to resistance of a plant not transformed with the polynucleotide sequence, and

wherein a first amino acid sequence comprising the polypeptide binds to a second amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:2 in a yeast two-hybrid binding assay.

32. (Original) The transgenic plant of claim 31, wherein the plant is rice.

33-42. (Canceled)

43. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant of claim 31, wherein the polynucleotide sequence is SEQ ID NO:3.

44-51. (Canceled)

52. (Currently amended) The transgenic plant of claim 31, wherein the polynucleotide sequence encodes ~~SEQ ID:4~~ SEQ ID NO:4.

53-59. (Canceled)

60. (Currently amended) A method of enhancing resistance to pathogens in a plant, the method comprising

1) introducing into the plant a recombinant expression cassette comprising a plant promoter operably linked to a polynucleotide sequence, wherein the polynucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide that is at least 95% ~~80%~~ identical to SEQ ID NO:4, wherein a first amino acid sequence comprising the polypeptide binds with a second amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:2 when assayed in a yeast two-hybrid binding assay; and

2) selecting a plant with enhanced pathogen resistance compared to resistance of a plant not transformed with the recombinant expression cassette.

61. (Canceled)

62. (Original) The method of claim 60, wherein the polypeptide comprises
SEQ ID NO:4.

63-69. (Canceled)

70. (Previously presented) The construct of claim 30, wherein the promoter is
constitutive.

71. (Previously presented) The construct of claim 30, wherein the promoter is
inducible.

72. (Previously presented) The construct of claim 30, wherein the promoter is
tissue-specific.

73. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant of claim 31, wherein the plant
promoter is constitutive.

74. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant of claim 31, wherein the plant
promoter is inducible.

75. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant of claim 31, wherein the plant
promoter is tissue-specific.

76. (Previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the plant
promoter is constitutive.

77. (Previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the plant
promoter is inducible.

78. (Previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the plant
promoter is tissue-specific.

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79. (Previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the plant is from the genus *Oryza*.